

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/763,300

Examiner

Abiy Getachew

Applicant(s)

SHIMODA ET AL.

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to November 9, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-2, 5-6, 10-12 and 17-20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 11/8/2007.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. J. Randall Beckers (Reg. No. 30,358) on November 9, 2007

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (TWICE CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic apparatus electrically connectable to a function expansion member via a connector, the function expansion member having the connector and expanding a function of said electronic apparatus, said electronic apparatus comprising: a housing that has an insertion opening, which the function expansion member is to be inserted into and ejected from; an ejector, which is folded so as to hold the function expansion member while said ejector exposes the connector, having a movable end that projects from the insertion opening and projects the function expansion member from the insertion opening as the movable end moves in a direction separating from the insertion opening; and a cover, attachable to said housing, which closes the insertion opening; and Wherein said ejector has approximately the same width as the function expansion member.

4. (CANCELLED)

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-2, 5-6, 10-12 and 17-20 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record neither teach nor render obvious the instant application claimed invention as a whole, in particular, the prior art fails to teach "an ejector, which is folded so as to hold the function expansion member while said ejector exposes the connector, having a movable end that projects from the insertion opening and projects the function expansion member from the insertion opening as the movable end moves in a direction separating from the insertion opening; and a cover, attachable to said housing" as recited in claim 1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abiy Getachew whose telephone number is (571) 272 6932. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8Am to 4:30Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego Gutierrez can be reached on (571) 272 2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



TUAN T. DINH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Abiy Getachew
Examiner
Art Unit 2841

A.G.
November 13, 2007

11/10/07